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Other recovery efforts during the past two years include:

- Repair or replacement of 758 private access roads and bridges for disaster victims, allowing access for the home owners and for emergency services;
- Replacement of the Avery County Health Department;
- Repairs to streets in the town of Newland;
- Replacement of bridges in the towns of Marion and Glen Alpine;
- Setting up the Crisis Housing Assistance Fund (CHAF) to aid qualifying disaster victims with their housing repair and replacement needs beyond the limits of the federal programs; and
- Surveying and developing accurate floodplain maps for the entire western region of the State of North Carolina.

The role of the state in providing much-needed additional financial and technical assistance to businesses and residents in the western part of the state has been critical to its recovery.

“It is important that North Carolina has been able to step in and help when people found that federal agencies were not in a position to assist,” said Sen. John Snow (D-Cherokee).

“When businesses and families needed North Carolina’s help, the state has been there to provide assistance to help rebuild homes and get their lives back to normal,” said Rep. Bruce Goforth (D-Buncombe).

“These storms had a significant impact here in western North Carolina and disrupted thousands of lives. The state has worked hard to help renew our communities,” said Rep. Ray Rapp (D-Madison).

Future projects include development and installation of a flood warning system for western North Carolina and implementation of \$16 million in flood-damage reduction projects. For more information on the 2004 hurricane recovery programs, go to www.OperationBrighterDay.org.

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